2016 CENSUS HIGHLIGHTS

Ministry of Finance *Fact Sheet 1* Ontario

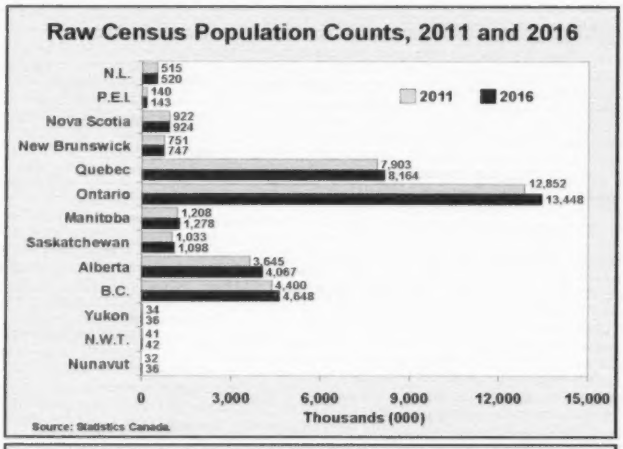
Population Counts: Canada, Ontario and Regions

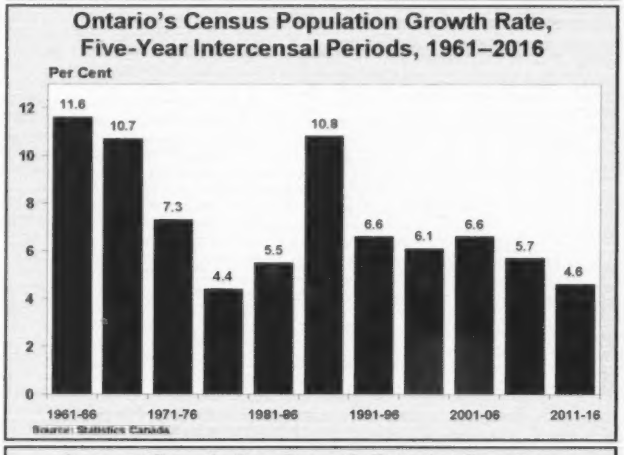
Raw Census Counts and Net Undercoverage

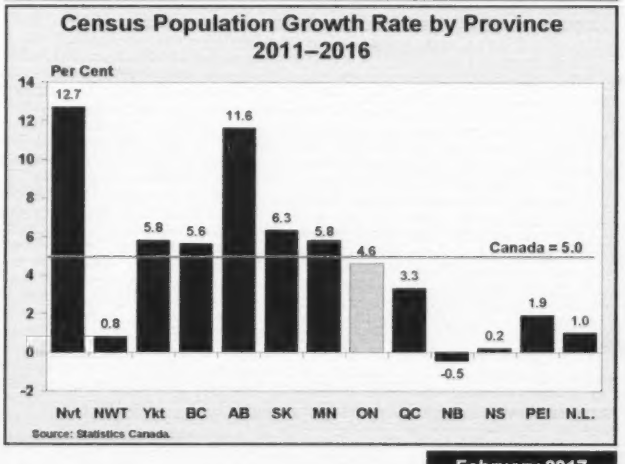
- On February 8, 2017, Statistics Canada released the first population counts from the 2016 Census. The Census counted 35.15 million people in Canada and 13.45 million in Ontario on May 10, 2016.
- While the goal of the Census is to count every resident on Census day, this falls short in two ways. **Undercoverage** occurs when people are missed by the Census. **Overcoverage** occurs when people are counted when they should not be, or counted more than once. Since undercoverage is often larger than overcoverage, **net undercoverage** is usually positive.
- Historically, Ontario usually has one of the highest net undercoverage rates among the provinces. For the 2006 Census, Ontario's net undercoverage rate was 3.7 per cent (466,000 people missed). For 2011, the rate was 2.9 per cent (370,000 people missed).
- Estimates of net undercoverage for the 2016 Census will not be available until the coverage studies have been completed (2018). If the net undercoverage is in the range observed in the previous Census, the adjusted estimate of the 2016 population for Ontario should be between 13.8 and 14.0 million.
- The estimate of the total population in Ontario on July 1, 2016 is 14.0 million.
- Because of net undercoverage, this fact sheet looks largely at shares and growth rates between the 2011 and 2016 Censuses rather than population levels.

Population Growth by Province

- All provinces and territories experienced population growth between 2011 and 2016, with the exception of New Brunswick.
- Between the 2011 and 2016 Censuses, Canada's population grew 1.68 million or 5.0 per cent. About 36 per cent of the national growth occurred in Ontario. Ontario population grew 4.6 per cent, modestly lower than the national growth rate.
- Nunavut and Alberta had the fastest population growth, at 12.7 per cent and 11.6 percent, followed by Saskatchewan (6.3%), British Columbia (5.8%) and the Yukon (5.8%).
- The population of New Brunswick declined by 0.5 per cent.







February 2017

Office of Economic Policy
Labour and Demographic Analysis Branch

Population Growth Varied Significantly Across Census Divisions*

- Twelve of the 49 census divisions (CDs) in Ontario had a population growth rate higher than the rate for the province as a whole between 2011 and 2016. The fastest-growing CD was Kenora at 13.8 per cent.
- By contrast, eight out of the 49 census divisions experienced population declines; five of these were in the North. The rate of decline was largest in Prince Edward, at -2.1 per cent.
- Three-quarters (75%) of Ontario's population growth between 2011 and 2016 was concentrated in just seven Census Divisions, including all five CDs of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), plus Ottawa and Simcoe.

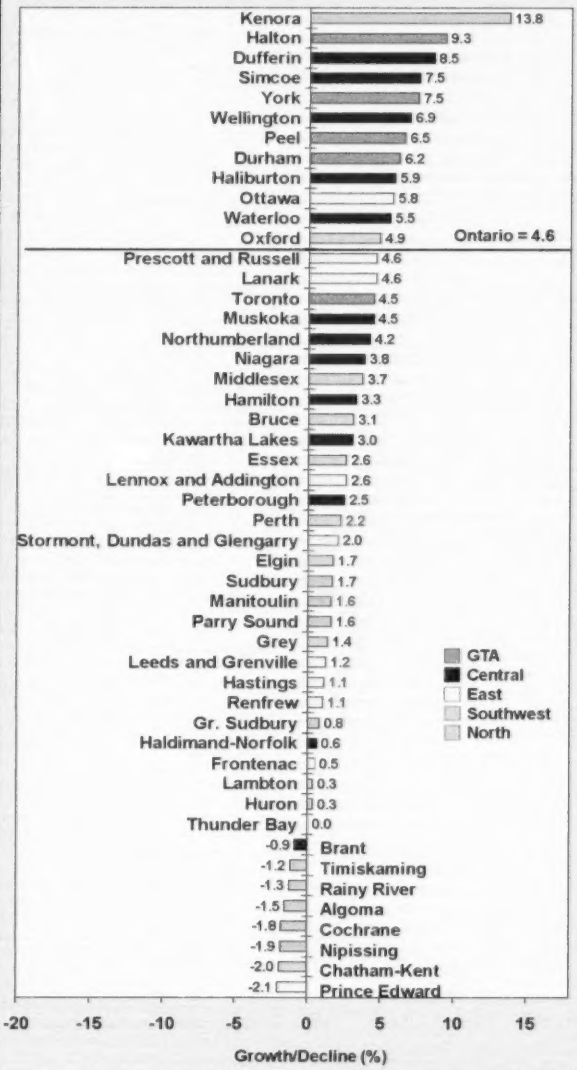
GTA Continues to Grow Rapidly

- Between 2011 and 2016, the GTA's population increased 6.0 per cent. Its population growth accounted for 60.9 per cent of Ontario's total population growth over the period, less than the share of growth during the 2006-2011 period (72.1%).
- About 47.7 per cent of the provincial population lived in the GTA in 2016, up slightly from 47.1 per cent in 2011. All other regions saw slight declines in their shares of provincial population.

Regional Population Growth

- Central Ontario's population grew 4.5 per cent over the period, accounting for 21.2 per cent of provincial growth.
- The population of Eastern Ontario also saw a healthy growth of 3.8 per cent between 2011 and 2016, accounting for 10.9 per cent of provincial growth.
- Population grew by 2.4 per cent in the Southwest over the 2011-2016 period. This region accounted for 6.2 per cent of Ontario's growth.
- Northern Ontario's population grew slightly by 0.6 per cent between 2011 and 2016. Its share of provincial population fell to 5.8 per cent from 6.0 per cent in 2011.
- Within the North, five CDs saw growth: Kenora, Sudbury, Manitoulin, Parry Sound and Greater Sudbury.

Census Population Growth Rates, Census Divisions, 2011–2016



Note: Incomplete enumeration of one or more Indian reserves occurred in 2006 or 2011 for the following CDs, and the results should be interpreted with caution: Brant, Haldimand-Norfolk, Muskoka, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, Lambton, Middlesex, Algoma, Nipissing, and Kenora.

Source: Statistics Canada.

* Incomplete enumeration of one or more Indian reserves occurred in 2011 or 2016 for the following CDs, and the results should be interpreted with caution: Brant, Haldimand-Norfolk, Muskoka, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, Lambton, Middlesex, Algoma, Nipissing, and Kenora.

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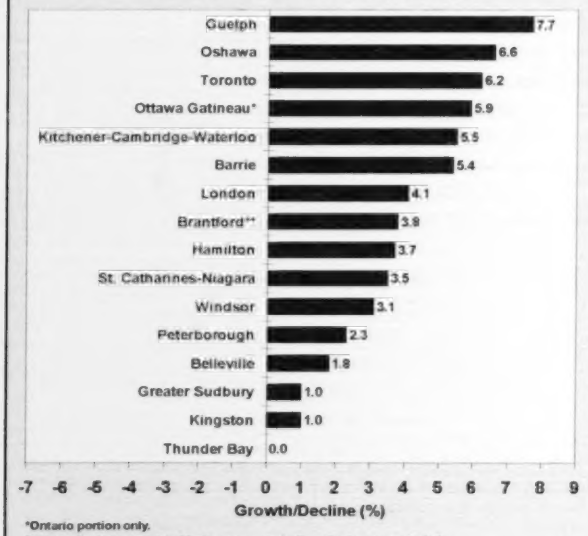
Large Urban Centres Continue to Grow Faster

- Over the 2011–2016 period, 92 per cent of Ontario's total population growth occurred within the 16 Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) of the province.
- A Census Metropolitan Area is formed by one or more adjacent municipalities centred on a large urban A CMA has a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more must live in that core.
- The Guelph CMA was the fastest-growing CMA in Ontario between 2011 and 2016, with a population rising by 7.7 per cent over the period, followed by Oshawa (6.6%), Toronto (6.2%), and the Ontario part of Ottawa-Gatineau (5.9%).
- Between 2011 and 2016 six CMAs in other provinces grew faster than the Guelph CMA: Calgary (14.6%), Edmonton (13.9%), Saskatoon (12.5%), Regina (11.8%), Lethbridge (10.8%), and Kelowna (8.4%).
- Saint John N.B. (-2.2%) was the only CMA in Canada experiencing population decline over the period.

Ontario's Mid-Size Urban Centres

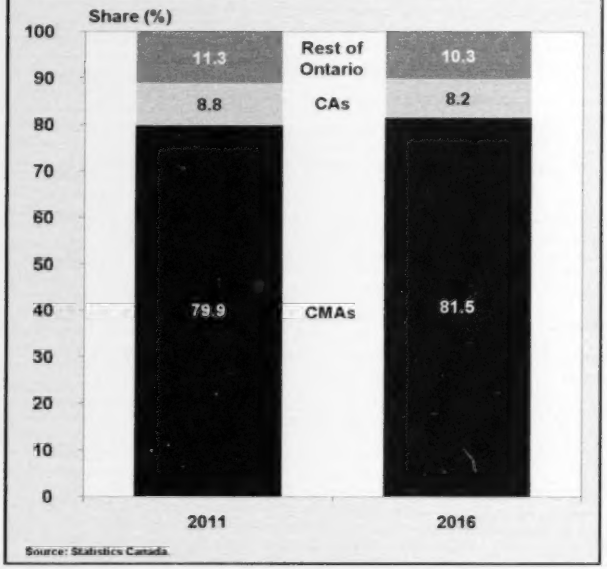
- In addition to the 16 CMAs, there are 29 midsize urban centres in Ontario designated as Census Agglomerations (CAs). These are urban areas that have an urban core with a population between 10,000 and 50,000.
- In 2016, 8.2 per cent of Ontarians lived in CAs, down slightly from 8.8 per cent in 2011.
- Wasaga Beach (17.9%) and Collingwood (13.3%) were the two fastest-growing CAs in Ontario over the 2006-2011 period.
- A total of twelve CAs experienced small or moderate population declines between 2011 and 2016. Five of these CAs were located in the North: Elliot Lake (-5.3%), Timmins (-3.2%), North Bay (-2.6%), Sault Ste. Marie (-2.1%) and Kenora (-1.6%). Four were in the Southwest: Chatham-Kent (-2.0%), Leamington (-1.2%), Sarnia (-1.0%) and Owen Sound (-0.8%). Finally, three were in Eastern Ontario: Pembroke (-3.1%), the Ontario part of Hawkesbury (-2.7%) and Brockville (-1.2%).

Census Population Growth Rates, Ontario CMAs, 2011–2016



*Ontario portion only.
**Incompletely enumerated Indian reserves in Brantford were excluded.
Source: Statistics Canada.

Distribution of Ontario's Census Population, CMAs, CAs and Rest of Ontario, 2011 & 2016



Source: Statistics Canada.

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